

Showers tonight and to-morrow.
Light, easterly winds.

NUMBER 3300.

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1903.

PRICE ONE CENT.

WILSON ANNOUNCES INQUIRY INTO SEEDS

Contracts for Distribution
Are Being Investigated
Independently by Agricultural Department.

Second Award Made to Nellis
in Spite of Complaints as
to Fulfillment of Obligations in 1899.

"We have known of these things in the department for some time, and we intend to probe them to the bottom. We believe that we have held up enough to reimburse the Government for any losses that may have accrued. The case is in the hands of the attorney for the Department of Agriculture, and it is pending before the Court of Claims. Other officers of the department are conducting an investigation. Prof. Galoway has the matter in his hands."

Thus spoke the Secretary of Agriculture this morning concerning the allegations made that the Government has been defrauded out of many thousands of dollars in seed contracts.

The exposures made by The Times yesterday as to the testimony in the case of the New York Market Gardeners' Association, which is suing to recover about \$18,000, alleged still to be due on contracts made in 1891, have created more or less of a sensation, and they may lead to still other investigations.

Charges Accumulating.
Charges and counter charges are accumulating rapidly and have been accumulating since 1898 and 1899, when the New York Market Gardeners' Association obtained its first contract with the Government, and when many complaints were made that Arthur C. Nellis, the manager of the association, was not fulfilling his obligations to the Government.

These charges have been intensified since the second contract was awarded to Mr. Nellis, despite the trouble over the first contract, and despite the protests of certain officers.

Those who awarded the second contract ignored the protests, it is asserted, because Mr. Nellis' bid was the lowest made—so low, in fact, that many experts were aware at the time that it would be almost impossible for him to fulfill his obligations.

Delay in Performing Contracts.
The second contract was also awarded in the face of official reports, in which it was shown that in the performance of the first contract, there had been the most serious delay, which had tangled up the distribution for the year. One of these reports was made by the then chief of the seed division, Capt. Robert J. Whitteford.

This report bore the date of August 25, 1899, and dealt with the distribution of the seed by the New York Market Gardeners' Association in the year ended June 30, 1899, and says in part:

"The cost to the department of the 14,238,168 packets of seeds distributed was \$70,978.36, as per contract awarded. In addition to the above contract list, there was expended for various kinds of seeds, which were distributed miscellaneous by the seed division during the fiscal year, the sum of \$4,358.32. These seeds were sent to such localities as were best adapted for their culture, and at proper time for planting."

"Among the varieties distributed were wheat, oats, buckwheat, field corn, velvet beans, cotton, grasses, turnip, and vegetable seeds, of which a record has been kept in this division showing where, when, and to whom the same have been sent."

Begun in January.
"Referring again to that part of the distribution which had been contracted for with the New York Market Gardeners' Association, I have to say that the work was begun about January 1, 1899, or soon thereafter, and ended on or about May 9."

"A. C. Nellis, acting in the capacity of manager for the contracting association, being himself a member of the firm, had charge of the distribution in so far as the seed firm was obligated by contract. Mr. Nellis was much of the time greatly handicapped in the work of distribution by delays of large shipments of seeds while in transit to this city, causing waste of much valuable time."

"In some cases the varieties named

THE WEATHER REPORT.

There will be showers tonight in the lower lake region and middle Atlantic States, continuing tomorrow. There will be showers tomorrow in the south Atlantic and east Gulf States and the Ohio valley.

TEMPERATURE.
9 a. m. 64
12 m. 66
1 p. m. 67

THE SUN.
Sun sets today 7:40 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow 4:23 a. m.
Tide table.
High tide today 7:10 p. m.
High tide tomorrow 7:38 a. m., 8:05 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow 1:30 a. m., 2:15 p. m.

THEATERS BAR DOORS TO NEGRO GRADUATES

Would Not Permit High
School Commencements.

EXERCISES HELD IN CHURCH

Precedent of Twenty Years Ignored.
Race Press Indignant Over
Matter.

Washington theaters closed their doors this year to the graduating exercises of the negro public schools. The commencements of the M Street High School and the Armstrong Manual Training School were held in the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, which was selected after all efforts to get a larger auditorium had failed.

All Were Engaged.

Representatives of the Board of Education called on the managers of the Columbia, Lafayette and Chase's Theater. All of them said their stock companies could not make way for commencements. A letter to the manager of the Academy of Music brought a reply that his house could not be opened for commencements. No application was made to the National Theater. Its doors have never opened to a negro commencement.

Precedents of Former Years.

Last year the M Street High School held its closing exercises in the Lafayette Theater. The year before the school had its commencement at the Columbia Theater and it has used the Academy of Music for its graduating exercises.

For twenty years all commencements of negro public schools in the city have been held in public halls and theaters. But this year the M Street School was compelled to seek a negro church on the night of June 12, and the Armstrong Manual Training School held its closing exercises there on June 16.

Negro Press Indignant.

The negro press is commenting freely on the refusal of Washington theaters to rent their buildings for the closing exercises of the colored schools. White commencements were sought, but even the District Commissioners could not persuade managers to rent for a colored gathering.

"Why did the managers throw up their hands in holy horror at the very mention of renting to the colored school—a thing they had been doing for twenty years?" asks a Boston paper, in discussion of the action of the Washington managers. "Is it a sign of a step backward that the negro is compelled to again seek his church for all meetings?"

GRAZING WITH CATTLE, PHYSICIAN FALLS DEAD

Indianian, Thinking Himself an Ox,
Eats Poisonous Herbs.

KOKOMO, Ind., June 24.—Dr. Edward Stanton, a well-known character of this place for sixty years, died today, aged eighty years.

Years ago Stanton lost his practice and fortune and it affected his mind. Since then he had imagined himself an ox, and grass and hay were his principal diet. He walked on all-fours in the pasture of the county farm, grazing constantly with the cattle, horses, and sheep. He almost lost his power of speech and of late years his conversation consisted of guttural sounds, resembling those of an animal.

He died suddenly as he was grazing, with mouth and stomach full of grass. It is thought poisonous herbs killed him. He had no known relatives.

UNITED BOYS' BRIGADE OF AMERICA MAY MEET HERE

The advisory board of the District of Columbia division of the United Boys' Brigade of America, held a meeting at headquarters, 302 Columbia Building, which was well attended by the leaders of thought and work in the religious work of the community. It was decided at the meeting to organize a battalion of boys under five feet in height.

The national headquarters will be petitioned to hold the 1904 convention in this city. This year it will be held in Baltimore on October 2, 3, and 4.

PRACTICED MEDICINE WITHOUT LICENSE

Dr. Nathan A. Springer, who has been practicing medicine in Washington with an office in the Fremont Hotel, without a license, demanded a jury trial in the Police Court today. The physician's friends deposited \$50 collateral for his appearance when wanted.

ASKS LOAN OF VATICAN.

ROME, June 24.—The Vatican has been requested to lend the St. Louis Exposition all the documents and maps at present in the Vatican library which bear on the discovery of America.

LIPTON AND MORGAN REACH NEW YORK

Delegation Aboard Yacht
Welcomes Sir Thomas.

FINANCIAL WORLD AGOG

Wall Street Magnate Expected to
Smooth Out Difficulties in
Family of Trusts.

NEW YORK, June 24.—On board the White Star liner Oceanic, which was sighted off Sandy Hook lightship at 10:40 a. m., and which will dock this afternoon, are J. Pierpont Morgan, Sir Thomas Lipton, Sir Clinton Dawkins, head of the London branch of Morgan & Co.; J. Bruce Ismay, one of the heads of the Morgan ship combine in England, and Secretary Wilding, a heavy stockholder in the combine.

An anxious delegation, composed of Adjt. Gen. Henry C. Corbin, John D. Crimmins, John Arbuckle, James H. Smith, E. C. M. Rand, M. Barrett, and Henry Siegel, was waiting off Sandy Hook in the steam yacht Privateer for the arrival of the leviathan. They were there to welcome Sir Thomas Lipton to America, and had the permission of the collector of the port to stop the liner at Quarantine, take Sir Thomas aboard, and convey him to the city, thus avoiding the delay that necessarily ensues in docking the steamer.

Big Task for Morgan.

Mr. Morgan will not be met down the bay by a welcoming delegation. His arrival is as anxiously awaited as is that of Sir Thomas, but for a vastly different reason. The financial world is anxious and many momentous questions will be put to the great financier for settlement.

First there is the question of reorganizing the shipbuilding combine and the threatened traffic war against the shipping trust caused by the Cunard line breaking away from the agreement. Then there is the Rockefeller-Gould and Pennsylvania trouble which Wall Street understands Mr. Morgan is desirous of settling. Mr. Rockefeller is anxious for peace and is expected to impress Mr. Morgan with the necessity for action. It was reported that Mr. Morgan intended remaining in Europe this summer, but was called home to stop the fighting in his family of trusts.

Will See the President.

Sir Thomas will be escorted to the Waldorf-Astoria, where he will be the guest of honor at a dinner tonight. He has also been invited to take luncheon with President Roosevelt on Friday at the White House.

ROOSEVELT FAVORITE WITH MANY DEMOCRATS

Boutell of Illinois Finds Sentiment
Strong for President.

Representative Henry S. Boutell of Illinois called on the President today and recommended the appointment of F. F. Peabody, of Chicago, as a member of the commission to take charge of the segregation of Indian Territory coal lands. A commission of five members is to be appointed in compliance with an act of Congress which will go into effect July 1.

Mr. Boutell said that he had been traveling over the country and had found the sentiment unanimous in favor of the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt. He believes that more Democrats favor Mr. Roosevelt than have ever expressed an opinion in favor of any other Republican.

YALE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES HELD TODAY IN NEW WOOLSEY AUDITORIUM

Six Hundred and Sixty-Seven Degrees to Be Conferred in the Course of the Day.
President Hadley Delivers His Annual Address and Announces the
Award of Prizes for the Year.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 24.—Yale today held her 202d commencement, and before the day is over she will have bestowed degrees to the number of 667 on the graduates and special students in all departments.

For the first time in history the commencement exercises were held in the new Woolsey Auditorium on the new Yale campus. The procession of graduates of the various departments, with the corporation and faculty and candidates for honorary degrees leading them, formed on the Yale campus at 10 o'clock, when the march to Woolsey Hall was begun.

On the arrival at the hall the exercises were opened with music by the Newberry Orchestra, and the singing of the sixty-fifth psalm. President Arthur T. Hadley then delivered his annual address, after which he announced the award of prizes as follows:

The Bennett prize for an essay on some subject of contemporaneous interest in the domestic or foreign policy of the United States Government was awarded to Hugh Rankin, of Peekskill,

PAYNE RESENTS MADDER'S LETTER

Thinks He Should Have
Waited on Department.

TALK OF A GENERAL LEAK

Postmaster General Aroused by Mad-
den's Answer to Charge and Dis-
semination of Postoffice News.

Postmaster General Payne has set in motion an inquiry as to what official of the Postoffice Department, if any, is responsible for the circulation of the charge that Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden had so drawn up specifications for registry books as to exclude all bidders all manufacturers except the Franklin, Pa., in which Congressmen Sibley is said to be interested. In his forenoon mail he had received a spirited letter from Mr. Madden, who is now in Detroit, in which the charge was denounced as "malicious, cruel, and without the slightest foundation," and demanding, "not only as man to man, but as a consideration due my office," investigation as to the authorship of the story.

Conference With Assistants.

But Mr. Payne did not wait for the arrival of the official copy. He read in the morning papers the letter as made public by Mr. Madden, and without delay called Mr. Wynne and Mr. Bristow to him, and the three gave the matter full and free discussion.

Mr. Payne was not in the best of humor over the incident. He was out of patience with General Madden in making public a matter that he felt should have been left to the discretion of the head of the department. This feeling was aggravated by the knowledge that much private information relative to the present investigation was being given out from some one in a high position.

Trouble With "Leaks."

Mr. Wynne has been charged by close friends of the Postmaster General with having given out the greater part of this information. In some quarters the personal public criticism of Mr. Payne's course has been laid at his door. It is reported that for some months the feeling against the Postmaster General and his First Assistant has not been of such a cordial character as to permit of any discussion or explanation of these reports.

First Assistant Wynne and Fourth Assistant Bristow deny that they have given to the public any information reflecting upon, or tending to embarrass, Mr. Madden.

MANNING SUCCEEDS IN ESCAPING "MAD MULLAH"

Another Disaster to British Arms in
Somaliand Averted.

LONDON, June 24.—An official dispatch received at the foreign office today says that General Manning, in command of the British forces in Somaliand, who was recently reported to be surrounded by the force of the "Mad Mullah," has extricated himself, and that he arrived at Damot on Monday. Manning's casualties in this latest encounter were one man wounded and one missing.

AS IT IS IN KENTUCKY.

WEST LIBERTY, Ky., June 24.—Dave Purcell this morning shot and killed Nick Nickell and Gordon Wells, near Carey. The trouble was over a game of cards. Purcell escaped, and officers are in pursuit, scouring the country.

PETER, THE DISGRACED EXILE, ENTERS HIS NATIVE SERVIA TO BECOME PETER THE KING

PRESIDENT LAUDS THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Has Been Zealous in Postoffice Frauds Matter.
Cannot Devote All His Time to It.

The appointment of Holmes Conrad and Charles J. Bonaparte to assist in the prosecutions brought and to be brought on account of the postoffice disclosures, was the result of the following letter from the President to Attorney General Knox, made public today:

"White House.
Washington, June 22, 1903.
"Sir: As you know, the charges in connection with the Postoffice Department are now being investigated by Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, who has had placed at his disposal by the Postmaster General, every resource of the department, including the services of Mr. Robb, whom you detailed from the Department of Justice to the Postoffice Department immediately after the removal of Mr. Tynor.

"Other Indictments in Prospect.
"As a result of this investigation a number of indictments have already been had, and it is probable that other indictments will be hereafter asked for. There can be no greater offense against the Government than a breach of trust on the part of a public official or the dishonest management of

his office, and, of course, every effort must be exerted to bring such offenders to punishment by the utmost rigor of the law.

"The District Attorney's office for the District of Columbia has faithfully and zealously seconded the efforts of the Postoffice Department in this matter, but the amount of work in the office is such as to make it difficult, without neglecting other important public duties, to devote all the time necessary to the prosecution of these cases.

Suggests Special Counsel.

"I suggest, therefore, that if you cannot detail some of your present staff, you appoint special assistants in these postoffice cases, not only to take up the cases in which indictments have been found or hereafter may be found, but to examine into all charges that have been made against officials in the postal service, with a view to the removal and prosecution of all guilty men in the service, and the prosecution of guilty men, whether in the service or not, where the cases are not barred by the statute of limitations.

"Sincerely yours,
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Departs in Disgrace.

Far different from his departure from Serbia was the new King's triumphal return. He departed in disgrace, an exile from his native land; he returned the choice of the people, the object of their love and reverence. His departure was in silence and secret, while he returned to the music of trumpets, playing of bands and the cheers of the multitudes.

The city was today in festival spirit. An enthusiastic crowd of over 100,000 persons filled the streets. The King's drive from the station to the palace was one continuous ovation. A pretty incident was the presenting of flowers to his majesty. All along the route school-girls had stationed themselves, and as the King drove by they almost buried him in bouquets.

Takes Oath Tomorrow.

Festivities of all kinds have been arranged for the rest of the week, beginning with an immense torchlight procession tonight. His majesty will take the oath of office as King before the skoptschina tomorrow.

The first foreign representative to be presented to King Peter was the Russian ambassador, who was presented by the premier. The Russian representative then presented his Austrian colleague.

Ministers Leave City.

A noticeable feature of the reception to the King at the palace was the absence of many of the diplomatic representatives. The Dutch, Turkish, English, and French ministers left the city entirely, while the German and Italian representatives kept away from the ceremony.

The absence of the Italian minister has caused comment, as it was generally supposed that the Italian government was most friendly toward the new sovereign.

MINISTER JACKSON GONE FROM BELGRADE

United States Minister Jackson has gone from Belgrade, the Serbian capital, pursuant to instructions sent him several days ago. These were to the effect that he was to take no action that would render him conspicuous, but if the diplomatic corps generally decided to sever connections there he was to do the same thing. In other words, he was to be governed by the attitude of the majority.

He has informed the department that he will return to Athens by way of Constantinople.

SERBIAN CONSPIRATORS

INSANE, SAYS "DIE ZEIT"

VIENNA, June 24.—"Die Zeit" today reports that five officers of the Sixth Serbian Infantry, who were prime movers in the assassination of King Alexander and Queen Draga, have become insane, while others, actuated by remorse, have committed suicide.

Threatening letters have been addressed to the other conspirators from the provinces. Colonel Maschia, the Queen's cousin, who is named as the one who killed her, is the special object of indignation, and is reported to be contemplating a journey abroad.

The Serbian government, according to "Die Zeit," is attempting to conceal these facts.

KILLED STEPFATHER

IN DEFENDING MOTHER

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., June 24.—The trial of John Skimmone, charged with the murder of Henry Jacobs, his stepfather, was begun today. Justice Short presiding. It is alleged that in a quarrel between Jacobs and his wife the former attempted to assault the latter. This enraged Skimmone, who, in defending his mother, stabbed Jacobs in the back.

Why is a country peddler so anxious to show his goods? For the same reason understood by every merchant—the power and influence of seeing. Seeing awakens interest and begets desire, and desire consummates a sale.